

10 NOV 1950

ABERTILLERY
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.



REPORT
of the
Medical Officer of Health
For the Year
1949.

J. R. DAVIES (PRINTERS) LTD.
ABERTILLERY

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URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.



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Medical Officer of Health

For the Year

1949.

Abertillery Urban District Council.

1st January to 9th May, 1949.

COUNCILLORS.

Chairman	-	-	-	-	R. G. RICE, J.P.
Vice-Chairman	-	-	-	-	G. R. SHINGLER.

WARDS.

Cwmtillery.

G. R. SHINGLER.
F. YEMM.
T. WILLIAMS.
W. E. HODGES.
D. J. MORGAN.
J. E. DAY.

Abertillery.

W. D. EVANS.
W. E. J. DERRICK.
B. EVANS.
Mrs. F. J. BROWN.
R. S. WOOD.

Six Bells.

O. TRILLA.
W. H. HILLMAN.

Aberbeeg.

R. G. RICE.
I. POPE.
H. ARSCOTT.

Llanhilleth.

W. F. WALTERS, J.P.
C. H. MORGAN.

**Day of Meeting—Last Monday in each Month,
at 6 p.m.**

9th May to December, 1949:

COUNCILLORS

Chairman	-	-	-	-	G. R. SHINGLER
Vice-Chairman	-	-	-	-	R. S. WOOD.

WARDS

Cwmtillery:

G. R. SHINGLER
F. YEMM.
R. BAKER.
W. E. HODGES.
D. J. MORGAN.
L. POWELL.

Abertillery:

W. D. EVANS.
W. E. J. DERRICK.
B. EVANS.
Mrs. F. J. BROWN.
R. S. WOOD.

Six Bells.

O. TRILLA.
W. H. HILLMAN.

Aberbeeg.

R. G. RICE.
I. POPE.
H. ARSCOTT.

Llanhilleth.

J. SMITH.
C. H. MORGAN.

**Day of Meeting—Last Monday in each Month.
at 6 p.m.**

Clerk of the Council	-	-	-	H. J. WILLIAMS. F.C.C.S.
Surveyor and Water Engineer	-	-	-	A. GORDON JONES, M.I.M.C.E.
Accountant and Treasurer	-	-	-	R. L. ENGLAND.
Rating and Valuation Officer	-	-	-	H. P. BREWER.
Housing Manager	-	-	-	C. E. COLES.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND CEMETERY COMMITTEE.

The Committee consists of all Members of the Council.

Councillor W. H. HILLMAN, Chairman.

**Day of Meeting—Friday following First Monday
in each Month.**

Medical Officer of Health	-	-	T. BAILLIE SMITH, M.B., CH.B. (Glasgow), D.P.H. (Camb.).
Assist. Medical Officer of Health	-	-	J. W. BOWEN, M.B., B.CH., B.SC., D.P.H.
Sanitary Inspector (Senr.) and Shops Inspector	-	-	G. A. PARRY, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.
Deputy Sanitary Inspector	-	-	J. L. JONES, A.R.S.I.
Sanitary Inspector	-	-	D. G. GRIFFITHS, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.
Clerk to Medical Officer	-	-	Miss E. DAY.
Rodent Officer	-	-	L. JONES.
Clerk	-	-	G. PERRY
Fever Nurse, etc. (to July 1st, 1949)			Miss S. A. BOBBETT, S.E.R.N.

Abertillery Urban District Council.

REPORT

OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH ON THE SANITARY CONDITIONS, ADMINISTRATION, AND VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR 1949.

*To the Chairman and Members of
Abertillery Urban District Council.*

Gentlemen,

I have the honour of submitting to you the Annual Report for the year 1949).

Natural and Social Conditions of the District.

Physical Features and General Character.

The Abertillery Urban District is situated in the Western Valleys of Monmouthshire, 13 miles north-west of Newport, and 20 miles south-west of Monmouth.

Its greatest length, north to south is $6\frac{1}{2}$ miles, while it varies in breadth, east to west, from $\frac{1}{2}$ to $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles. It has an area of $10\frac{1}{4}$ square miles, being one of the largest Urban Districts in the County. The population is 28,070, and the rateable value is £94,478, (Abertillery £69,237, Llanhilleth £25,241). The estimated product of a penny rate is £338.

The district lies upon the north-east corner of the South Wales Coal Field.

The Upper Coal Measures have been almost wholly denuded, but the Pennant Series form a moorland plateau from 1,200 to 1,600 feet above sea-level, through which valleys, deep, narrow, and confluent, run from north to south regardless of the geological formation. The whole of the Blaentillery Valley and portions of the Valleys of the River Ebbw and its tributary, the Ebbw Fach, are within the area. The Tillery coal vein, at the base of the Pennant Series, outcrops in long lines on the sides of the valley north of Aberbeeg, and has been worked by levels.

The Deep or Steam Coal Series are nowhere exposed throughout the district, and are worked by deep pits. The early rapid development and prosperity of the district are to be attributed mainly to the mining of the deeper coal measures.

The mountain land is sparsely inhabited. The main population is aggregated around the collieries, thus forming a chain of mining towns, linked to the central and largest one of Abertillery.

The chief centres of population are :—Cwmtillery, in the Blaentillery Valley to the north; Abertillery, at the junction of the Blaentillery and Ebbw Fach Valleys; Six Bells, in the Ebbw Fach Valley to the South of Abertillery; Aberbeeg, at the junction of the Ebbw with the Ebbw Fach; and Llanhilleth and Crumlin in the Ebbw Valley to the south.

Elevations above Ordnance Datum.

Lowest Point in District—							<i>Feet</i>
River bed at exit from district below Crumlin Low Level							
Station	..	..	..	..	..	..	370
Crumlin—							
Road near Viaduct Hotel	..	..	..	..	..	..	401
Top of Viaduct	..	..	..	..	..	..	600
Llanhilleth—							
Line at Railway Station	..	..	..	..	..	..	482
St. Iltyd's Church	..	..	..	..	..	..	1181
Aberbeeg—							
Engine Shed at Station	..	..	..	..	..	..	516
B.M. near Aberbeeg School	..	..	..	..	..	..	625
Six Bells—							
Railway Line	..	..	..	..	..	..	613
Abertillery—							
Road fronting Tin Works	..	..	..	..	..	..	649
Foundry Bridge	..	..	..	..	..	..	748
Blaina Border—							
Railway Line	..	..	..	..	..	..	815
Cwmtillery—							
Reservoir	..	..	..	..	..	..	1150
Top Rows, West Side	..	..	..	..	..	..	1157

Roads and Railways.

The main roads and the railways run on the east side of the river. The main road from Newport—Brynmaur through Abertillery as listed by the Ministry of Transport is A.467.

The district is served by the Newport - Brynmaur Branch of the British Railways. There are connections to the North at Brynmaur, and to the Swansea and Pontypool High Level Line near Crumlin—the latter connection unfortunately is not open for passenger traffic, so that passengers have to walk up a steep hill from the Low to the High Level Station at Crumlin. Excellent Road Motor Services have been established.

Wards.

Up to 1908 the district was comprised of three wards. By an Order of the Monmouthshire County Council, dated May 6th, 1908, and confirmed by the Local Government Board, December 8th, 1908, the district was divided into five wards, as follows :—

Ward 1, Llanhilleth.—This includes that part of Llanhilleth south-east of the Nant-Cuffin, with the portions of Crumlin and Hafodyrynys which are within the district. Members on Council, 2. Area, 894 acres. Population, 3,472. Electors, 2,432. Density of population per acre, 3.9 persons.

Ward 2, Aberbeeg.—Comprises Aberbeeg and that portion of Llanhilleth N.W. of the Nant Cuffin. Members on Council, 3. Area, 927 acres. Population, 3,553; Electors, 2,818. Density per acre, 3.85 persons.

Ward 3, Six Bells.—Comprises Warin Turn, Six Bells, and that portion of Abertillery south of Cwm Road and the Vivian Pit. Members on Council, 2. Area, 1,091 acres. Population, 4,849; Electors, 3,563. Density per acre, 4.47 persons.

Ward 4, Abertillery.—Comprises the township of Abertillery, with the exception of the portions included in Wards 5 and 3. Members on Council, 5. Area, 1,151 acres. Population, 7,957; Electors, 5,209. Density per acre, 7 persons.

Ward 5, Cwmtillery.—Consists of Cwmtillery with Penybont, Blaenau Gwent, and Brynteg. Members on Council, 6. Area, 2,400 acres. Population, 8,242; Electors, 6,258. Density per acre, 3.46 persons.

Occupations.

Agriculture, formerly the staple industry of the district, is still represented by some five and twenty sheep or dairy farms.

The majority of the male inhabitants are employed in coal mining.

There is also a Tinplate works. Some new minor industries have recently been established.

A considerable proportion of the population now travel by bus and train to works situated outside the district at Rogerstone, Cwmbran, Glascoed and Pontypool.

ABERTILLERY & DISTRICT WATER BOARD.

W. Cory Goddard, M.Inst.C.E., M.Inst.W.E., A.M.I.Mech.E., supplies the following particulars :—

GRWYNE FAWR RESERVOIR.

The total rainfall for the year 1949 recorded at the Grwyne Fawr Reservoir, Breconshire, was 52.39 inches as compared with 64.17 inches in 1948 and 45.73 inches in 1947.

During 1949 the highest daily rainfall recorded was 2.59 inches on 25th October.

The highest monthly rainfall recorded in 1949 was 11.45 inches in October, 1949, and the lowest 1.26 inches in June and July, 1949.

Rain fell on 180 days at the Grwyne Fawr Reservoir in 1949.

Owing to the continued drought in 1949 restrictions were put into effect during August, and were lifted on 20th October, when full supplies were restored.

During 1949 mains were laid to supply the properties to be erected on the Rose Heyworth Housing Site.

The mains and service pipes throughout the Board's district are continually tested and inspected for leakage, and many repairs are carried out to fractured and cracked pipes, caused mainly through subsidence.

Vital Statistics.

The population of the district according to the latest return is 28,070, an actual decrease compared with 1911 of 7,345 persons and a decrease of 3,685 as compared with the 1931 Census.

There has been a positive increment between 1921 and 1931 in respect of natural increase (i.e., the excess of births over deaths) of 10.3 per cent and a net loss by migration of 28.3 per cent—the highest loss recorded by migration in the county. The difference between these two amounts gives a net total loss of 18 per cent.

The percentage increase between 1911 and 1921 was 9.6 per cent.

The difference between the mid-year population of 1948—28,020—and the mid-year population of 1949—28,070—shows an increase of 50 persons. The total acreage of the district is 6,463 acres

The density of the population of the whole district is 4.3 persons per acre.

The actual density of the inhabited portion is greater than 4.3 as a great part of the hill-side and mountain land is uninhabited.

The following are the 1949 statistics in regard to the Administrative County of Monmouth :—

Area of County	340,110 acres
Population for County (1931 Census) ..	345,755
Population for County (estimated 1949) ..	318,510
Rateable Value (as at 1st April, 1949) ..	£1,217,323
Penny Rate, 1948/49	£4,456

		<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Live births :	{ Births (Legit.)	2,902	2,736	5,638
	{ Births (Illeg.)	89	98	187
	{ Births Total	<u>2,991</u>	<u>2,834</u>	<u>5,825</u>
Birth-rate				18.2
Still-birth rate .. .. .				.58
Deaths (all causes)				3,869
Death-rate per 1,000				12.1
Deaths under 1 year				341
Infant mortality rate				42.7

Monmouthshire, in common with other counties associated with the mining industry, contains a larger number of males than females.

In England and Wales, females outnumber males in the proportion of 1,087 to 1,000, whereas in Monmouthshire the proportion is only 955 females for 1,000 males.

The population of the County of Monmouthshire according to the census of 1921 was 358,436 persons (males 186,225, females 172,211) and according to that of 1931 was 345,623 persons (males 178,608, females 167,015)—an actual decrease of 12,813 persons, representing a fall of 3.6 per cent. The population of Monmouthshire increased by 13.9 per cent between 1911 and 1921.

The estimate of population for the County as supplied by the Registrar-General for the mid-year 1949 is 318,510—an increase of 23.0 from the previous year, and a decrease of 27,045 compared with 1931 Census.

Births.

		1949	1948	1947	1946	1945
Number of Births	..	508	530	599	551	532
Birth Rate per 1,000—						
Abertillery	.. ..	18.09	18.8	21.3	19.48	18.8
England and Wales	..	16.7	17.9	20.5	19.1	16.1
Small Towns	..	18.7	19.2	22.2	21.3	19.1

The total number of births registered locally during 1949 as belonging to the district was 243, of which 128 were males and 115 females.

The number of births registered outside the District was 265, (males 133, females 132).

The Registrar General's return of births is 508. Of this number, 261 were males and 247 females.

The number of legitimate births was 249 males and 238 females.

The total number of illegitimate births from the Registrar General's return is 21 (12 males, 9 females). 16 illegitimate births (males 10, females 6) occurred outside the area.

The number of births during the year 1949 is 22 less than was recorded for 1948.

The total number of births in the County for the year 1949 was 5,825 (males 2,991, females 2,834) giving a birth-rate of 18.2.

The number of legitimate births in the County was 5,638 (males 2,902, females 2,736); illegitimate births 187 (males 89, females 98).

Thirteen still births (males 9, females 4) were recorded by the Registrar General for this area.

N.B.—Births means including still-births unless otherwise stated.

TABLE I.
BIRTHS FOR THE YEAR 1949.

<i>Month</i>	<i>Boys</i>	<i>Girls</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Boys</i>	<i>Girls</i>	<i>Total</i>
January	15	10	25	35	28	63
February	14	5	19			
March	6	13	19			
April	15	14	29	35	32	67
May	8	10	18			
June	12	8	20			
July	8	10	18	28	27	55
August	10	12	22			
September	10	5	15			
October	13	14	27	30	28	58
November	6	9	15			
December	11	5	16			
<i>Total</i>	128	115	243	128	115	243

Transferable births, 265 (133 boys and 132 girls), making a total of 508, including still-births.

TABLE II.

MONTHLY WARD DISTRIBUTION OF BIRTHS
FOR YEAR, 1949.

<i>Month</i>			<i>Ward</i> 1	<i>Ward</i> 2	<i>Ward</i> 3	<i>Ward</i> 4	<i>Ward</i> 5	<i>Total</i>
January	..	..	3	5	5	3	9	25
February	..	..	5	5	1	6	2	19
March	..	..	5	2	3	2	7	19
April	..	..	5	1	6	7	10	29
May	..	..	5	5	—	5	3	18
June	..	..	3	5	5	2	5	20
July	..	..	1	4	3	4	6	18
August	..	..	2	3	7	6	4	22
September	..	..	2	4	1	3	5	15
October	..	..	4	5	2	4	12	27
November	..	..	—	4	2	3	6	15
December	..	..	5	4	3	2	2	16
<i>Total</i>	..	..	40	47	38	47	71	243

Outside area, 265.

TABLE III.

Transferable Illegitimate Births, 16 (10 boys, 6 girls). Total 21.

	<i>Population of each Ward</i>	ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS		
		<i>Boys</i>	<i>Girls</i>	<i>Total</i>
Ward 1	3,472	—	1	1
Ward 2	3,553	—	1	1
Ward 3	4,850	—	—	—
Ward 4	7,957	—	1	1
Ward 5	8,238	2	—	2
TOTAL	28,070	2	3	5

Deaths.

The total number of deaths which occurred during the year 1949 was 367, a increase of 49 as compared with 1948, when the total number was 318.

221 of these deaths occurred in males and 146 in females.

Weekly returns of the deaths are received from the local Registrar, and these returns show the total deaths as 256—155 males and 101 females. In addition, there were 111 deaths registered outside the district, making a total of 367.

According to the Registrar General's return the total number of deaths which occurred was 372.

The death rate for the year was 12.96 per 1,000.

Causes of Death. TABLE IV. (TABLE III).

<i>Causes of Death.</i> ALL CAUSES							<i>M.</i> 221	<i>F.</i> 146
1	Typhoid and para-typhoid fevers	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
2	Measles	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
3	Scarlet fever	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
4	Whooping cough	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
5	Diphtheria	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
6	Influenza	..	..	..	..	..	—	1
7	Encephalitis Acute Infection	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
8	Cerebro-spinal fever	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
9	Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	..	..	..	..	..	9	8
10	Other Tuberculous Diseases	..	..	..	..	..	2	2
11	Syphilitic Diseases	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
12	Cancer' malignant disease	..	..	..	..	..	26	20
13	Cancer of stomach and duodenum	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
14	Meningitis	..	..	..	..	..	—	2
15	Cancer of all other sites	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
16	Diabetes	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
17	Intra-Cranial Vascular Lesions	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
18	Organic Heart disease	..	..	..	..	..	66	47
19	Other diseases of circulatory system	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
20	Bronchitis	..	..	..	..	..	26	9
21	Pneumonia (all forms)	..	..	..	..	..	12	7
22	Other respiratory diseases	..	..	..	..	..	4	2
23	Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
24	Diarrhoea and Enteritis	..	..	..	..	..	—	1
25	Appendicitis	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
26	Other digestive diseases	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
27	Nephritis and Bright's Diseases	..	..	..	..	..	2	3
28	Puerperal and post-abortion, sepsis	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
29	Accidents and diseases of Pregnancy & Parturition	..	..	..	..	..	3	—
30	Congenital Debility and Malformation, including	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
	Premature birth	..	..	..	..	..	5	5
31	Suicide	..	..	..	..	..	2	—
32	Violent Deaths, excluding Suicide	..	..	..	..	..	13	3
33	Other defined Diseases	..	..	..	..	..	51	36
Special Causes (included above).								
	Small-pox	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
	Poliomyelitis	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
	Polioencephalitis	..	..	..	..	..	1	—
Deaths of infants under 1 year of age :								
	Total	..	..	..	..	..	16	12
	Legitimate	..	..	..	..	..	15	12
	Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	..	1	—
TOTAL BIRTHS							261	247
	Legitimate	..	..	..	..	..	249	238
	Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	..	12	9
STILL BIRTHS								
	Legitimate	..	..	..	..	..	8	4
	Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	..	1	—
POPULATION—								
	For Birth and Death Rates	..	..	..	..	..	28,070	

Out of a total of 367 deaths 113 of those deaths were due to heart disease.

TABLE V.

MONTHLY DEATHS OF MALES AND FEMALES.

<i>Month</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
January	26	21	47
February	17	13	30
March	20	11	31
April	15	16	31
May	27	5	32
June	11	11	22
July	13	17	30
August	16	11	27
September	11	6	17
October	22	7	29
November	13	17	30
December	30	11	41
TOTAL	221	146	367

Population :

<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
14,846	13,224	28,070

Death Rate : Males, 14.9 per 1000; Females, 11.04 per 1000.

Total Death rate, 12.96 per 1,000.

TABLE VI.

DEATHS, 1949—MONTHLY AND WARD DISTRIBUTION.

<i>Month</i>	<i>Ward 1</i>	<i>Ward 2</i>	<i>Ward 3</i>	<i>Ward 4</i>	<i>Ward 5</i>	<i>Total</i>	
						<i>M'ths</i>	<i>Qu'tr</i>
January ..	3	7	6	6	15	37	} 85
February ..	—	3	3	7	13	26	
March.. ..	2	1	6	7	6	22	
April	4	1	2	4	7	18	} 54
May	1	4	4	4	8	21	
June	2	4	3	3	3	15	
July	2	3	2	3	5	15	} 46
August ..	1	1	4	6	6	18	
September ..	1	1	4	4	3	13	
October ..	—	5	5	4	8	22	} 71
November ..	—	—	4	6	11	21	
December ..	5	4	6	5	8	28	
Transferable Deaths ..	16	13	21	23	38	111	
TOTAL ..	37	47	70	82	131	367	

Inquests.

Twenty-five inquests were held during 1949. The certified causes of deaths were as follows :—

ACCIDENTS.

					<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
In or about Coal Mines	..	..	..	..	6	—	6
Run over by Vehicles	..	..	..	..	2	—	2
Falls ..	..	..	..	..	3	3	6
Suicide	..	..	..	..	2	—	2
Natural causes :—							
Peritonitis	..	..	..	..	1	—	1
Acute Leukaemia	..	..	..	..	1	—	1
Pneumoconiosis of Lungs	..	..	..	..	2	—	2
Emphysema of Lungs	..	..	..	..	2	—	2
Tuberculosis	..	..	..	..	2	—	2
Suffocation	..	..	..	..	1	—	1
					22	3	25

Thirteen inquests were held on residents who died outside the area.

Colliery Fatalities.

The rate for this is .21 per 1,000 of the population.

Certified Deaths.

The proportion of deaths certified by medical practitioners and inquest cases registered during 1949 was as follows :—

Certified by Medical Practitioners	..	..	..	342
Uncertified ..	..	..	..	—
Inquest Cases	..	..	..	25

Of the 111 transferable deaths, 98 were certified by Hospital Surgeons and 13 by the Coroner.

TABLE VII.

INFANT MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1949.

Nett Deaths from stated causes at various ages under 1 year of age.

<i>Cause of Death</i>	<i>Under 1 week</i>	<i>1-2 weeks</i>	<i>2-3 weeks</i>	<i>3-4 weeks</i>	<i>Total Under 1 month</i>	<i>1-3 months</i>	<i>3-6 months</i>	<i>6-9 months</i>	<i>9-12 months</i>	<i>Total deaths under 1 year</i>
All causes :—										
Certified ..	8	2	—	—	10	4	6	2	1	23
Uncertified ..	2	1	—	—	3	—	2	—	—	5
										28
*Meningitis ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Convulsions ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	2
Laryngitis ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bronchitis ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia ..	1	—	—	—	1	2	2	2	1	8
Diarrhoea ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteritis ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gastritis ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Syphilis ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rickets ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Suffocation, over-lying ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Injury at Birth ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Atelectasis ..	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Congenital Mal- formations ..	1	2	—	—	3	1	1	—	—	5
Premature Birth ..	5	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	5
Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	2
Other causes ..	2	1	—	—	3	—	2	—	—	5
Influenza ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Polio-encephalitis ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ..	10	3	—	—	13	4	8	2	1	28

(*not Tuberculous)

Fourteen of the above Deaths occurred Outside the District.

TABLE VIII.

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE
DURING 1949.

MONTHLY, QUARTERLY AND WARD DISTRIBUTIONS.

<i>Month</i>	<i>Ward 1</i>	<i>Ward 2</i>	<i>Ward 3</i>	<i>Ward 4</i>	<i>Ward 5</i>	<i>Out- side District</i>	<i>Total</i>	
							<i>M'hs</i>	<i>Qtr.</i>
January	2	1	1	—	1	1	6	} 9
Febru'y	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	
March	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	
April	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	} 6
May ..	—	1	—	—	—	1	2	
June ..	—	—	—	1	—	3	4	
July ..	—	—	—	—	1	4	5	} 8
August	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	
Sept. ..	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	
October	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	} 5
Nov. ..	—	—	2	—	—	1	3	
Dec. ..	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	
TOTAL	2	3	4	2	3	14		28

Infantile Mortality.

			1949	1948	1947	1946	1945
Number of Deaths under							
1 year	..	..	28	29	30	30	31
Number of Births	..		508	530	599	551	532
Infantile Mortality, Aber-							
tillery	..	..	55.1	54.9	50.0	55.44	58.27

The number of deaths of children under one year of age was 28 a decrease of one as compared with previous year.

The number of deaths of infants under one year recorded for the County was 341, equal to an infantile mortality of 42.7.

There were 508 births recorded by the Registrar-General, 487 legitimate births, out of which 27 children died, and 21 illegitimates, out of which there was one death.

The Infantile Mortality rate forms "the most sensitive index we possess of social welfare and of sanitary administration, especially under urban conditions."

Table 8 gives a full return of all deaths in children under one year.

Pneumonia caused 8 deaths. Respiratory diseases are very common in our area owing to the severe climatic conditions, etc., under which we live.

Premature birth and congenital debility was the cause of 10 deaths. This is a pre-natal question. If this cause of infant death could be materially dealt with, it would lead to a great reduction of infantile mortality.

Out of 28 deaths recorded in infants you will observe that 10 of these deaths occurred within the first week of life, and 13 occurred within the first month.

A substantial proportion of the incoming race is lost each year through abortion, miscarriages, still-births, and dead infants, and it is of national importance that these lives should be saved. The causes of high infantile death rate also affect the health of the survivors, and lie near the roots of our social life.

To obtain a correct understanding of the principal causes concerning infant mortality it is necessary to bear the following facts in mind :—

1. Its incidence falls chiefly in the first three months of life, and especially in the first week of the first month.
- 2.—In this country it is higher in urban than in rural areas.
- 3.—It is higher among illegitimate than among legitimate children.
- 4.—It is related to the age of the mother and the number of her children.
- 5.—Its incidence is dependent not upon density of population, but upon local and domestic conditions characteristic of limited industrial areas and social classes of the community.

13 still-births were recorded.

Zymotic Diseases, 1949.

Details as to the number of cases, deaths, etc., are given in the following table under the headings of various diseases.

TABLE IX.

		<i>Notified Cases</i>	<i>Deaths</i>	<i>Case Fatality per cent.</i>	<i>Death Rate</i>	<i>England and Wales</i>
Small Pox ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ..	37	—	—	—	—	1.63
Diphtheria ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fevers— Typhus ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Para-Typhoid ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Continued ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	219	—	—	—	—	8.75
Whooping Cough	2	—	—	—	—	2.39
Diarrhoea ..	—	—	—	—	—	} 3.0
and Enteritis	—	—	—	—	—	

TABLE X.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES, 1949.

				<i>Total Cases Notified</i>	<i>Cases ad- mitted to Hospital</i>	<i>Total Deaths</i>
Small-Pox	..	..	..	—	—	—
Diphtheria	..	..	..	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	..	..	..	37	14	—
Enteric Fever (incl. Para-Typhoid)	..			—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	..	..	..	—	—	—
Chicken Pox	..	..	..	—	—	—
Measles	..	..	..	219	1	—
Pneumonia—						
(a) Influenzal	..	..	..	—	—	—
(b) Acute Primary	..	..	..	2	—	12
Erysipelas	..	..	..	1	—	—
Polioencephalitis	..	..	..	1	1	1
Cerebro-Spinal Fever		..	..	—	—	—
Tuberculosis—						
(a)—Pulmonary			{ M.	17	9	10
			{ F.	9	7	8
			{ Total	26	16	18
(b)—Non-Pulmonary			{ M.	3	—	1
			{ F.	1	—	2
			{ Total	4	—	3

TABLE XI.
INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED 1949.

<i>Disease</i>	<i>All Ages</i>	—1	1—2	2—3	3—4	4—5	5—10	10—15	15—20	20—25	25—35	35—45	45—65	65+
Diphtheria ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ..	37	—	2	7	6	—	15	5	1	1	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Fever ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
{ Male ..	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
{ Female ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
{ Total ..	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
{ Neon. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
{ Erysipelas ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
{ Poliomyelitis ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
{ Enceph. Letharg. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
{ Cerebro-Spinal ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
{ Male ..	17	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	7	—	4	1	—
{ Female ..	9	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	3	2	1	—	—
{ Total ..	26	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	7	10	2	5	1	—
Non-Pulmonary ..	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
{ Male ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
{ Female ..	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
{ Total ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Polio-Encephalitis ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ..	219	11	56	38	60	35	18	—	1	—	—	—	—	—

TABLE XII.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED, 1949.

Ward Distribution.

<i>Disease</i>	<i>Ward</i> 1	<i>Ward</i> 2	<i>Ward</i> 3	<i>Ward</i> 4	<i>Ward</i> 5	<i>Total</i>
Small Pox	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ..	5	2	5	8	17	37
Enteric Fever ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Fever ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles—	6	8	16	94	95	219
{ M.	—	—	1	—	1	2
{ F.	—	—	—	—	—	—
{ Total	—	—	1	—	1	2
Oph. Neon	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—	1	—	1
Ence. Letharg. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Polio-Encephalitis ..	—	—	—	1	—	1
Cerebro Sp. F. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis—						
{ M.	2	2	5	4	4	17
{ F.	1	2	2	1	3	9
{ Total	3	4	7	5	7	26
Non-Pulmonary						
{ M.	—	—	1	1	1	3
{ F.	—	—	—	—	1	1
{ Total	—	—	1	1	2	4

Scarlet Fever.

	1949	1948	1947	1946	1945
Number of Cases Notified	37	55	62	83	164
Number of Deaths ..	—	—	—	—	—
Death rate per 1,000 Aber- tillery	—	—	—	—	—
Death rate England and Wales	1.63	—	—	—	—

37 cases of Scarlet Fever were notified during the year, a decrease of 18 as compared with the previous year. A study of the above figures will show the rise and fall of cases since 1945.

The number of cases notified each month, compared with the numbers notified monthly during previous years, can be seen from the following table.

MONTHLY NOTIFICATION OF SCARLET FEVER.

	1949	1948	1947	1946	1945
January	3	11	7	16	6
February	1	4	3	14	10
March	—	6	6	6	6
April	1	7	2	7	13
May	—	6	4	9	9
June	1	3	1	2	17
July	1	10	4	2	26
August	1	1	1	2	11
September	5	—	10	7	7
October	6	—	10	5	21
November	11	3	8	7	20
December	7	4	6	6	18
TOTAL	37	55	62	83	164

The Ward distribution was as follows :—

	<i>No. of cases each year.</i>				
	1949	1948	1947	1946	1945
Ward 1	5	2	—	1	9
Ward 2	2	6	8	10	21
Ward 3	5	11	20	14	26
Ward 4	8	22	13	25	35
Ward 5	17	14	21	33	73
TOTAL	37	55	62	83	164

The age distribution of the cases can be seen from Table XI. 20 cases were notified in young persons between the age of 4 years and under 15 years.

15 cases occurred in children under four years of age. 35 cases occurred in children under 15 years of age. The remaining two cases occurred in persons between the ages of 15 and 35.

Diphtheria.

	1949	1948	1947	1946	1945
Number of cases Notified	—	4	6	10	5
Number of Deaths . .	—	1	—	1	—
Death rate per 1,000 persons, Abertillery . .	—	.03	—	.02	—
England and Wales . .	—	.00	.01	.01	.02

Special Clinics for the immunisation of children against Diphtheria are held each Friday afternoon at the School Clinic in Abertillery, and on Thursday fore-noon at Llanhilleth. The first injections should be given as soon after the tenth month of age as possible. A re-inforcing dose is recommended on or about the fifth year and also the tenth year of age.

There were no cases notified during 1949, as compared with 4 during the year 1948, and 6 during the year 1947.

This shows a decrease of 4 cases compared with the previous year.

You will note the low incidence of Diphtheria in this area for several years past.

No death was certified as due to Diphtheria.

Success in the treatment of Diphtheria depends on the promptness of administration of the Antitoxin. The result of a swab should not be awaited before administering the Antitoxin. In all cases give Antitoxin at once.

In all cases of throat trouble in children the family doctor should be called in at once.

The Medical Practitioners invariably give Antitoxin promptly

Enteric Fever.

<i>Disease</i>	<i>Cases notified in the District</i>	<i>Case rate per 1,000 living England and Wales</i>
Small Pox 	—	—
Scarlet Fever 	37	1.63
Diphtheria 	—	.04
Enteric Fever 	—	—
Puerperal Fever 	—	} 6.31
Puerperal Pyrexia 	—	
Erysipelas 	1	.19

Tuberculosis.

MONTHLY NOTIFICATION OF TUBERCULOSIS.

<i>Month of Year.</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Pulmonary</i>		<i>Non-Pulmonary</i>	
		<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
January	—	—	—	—	—
February	1	—	1	—	—
March	5	3	1	—	1
April	2	2	—	—	—
May	1	—	1	—	—
June	4	2	—	2	—
July	6	3	3	—	—
August	4	3	1	—	—
September ..	—	—	—	—	—
October	—	—	—	—	—
November ..	—	—	—	—	—
December ..	7	4	2	1	—
TOTAL	30	17	9	3	1

1st Quarter 6

2nd „ 7

3rd Quarter 10

4th „ 7

The total number of cases of Tuberculosis notified during the year was 30 cases, as compared with 26 cases during 1948.

Of this, 26 cases were of a pulmonary type, and 4 cases of Non-Pulmonary type.

The above table gives in detail the monthly notification of all cases of Tuberculosis.

Under the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1930, it is the duty of every Medical Practitioner to notify each patient suffering from Tuberculosis within 48 hours of his becoming aware that the patient was so affected. I particularly call the attention of medical practitioners to this regulation.

2 deaths occurred in un-notified cases.

The Minister views failure to perform this duty with much concern.

The Tuberculosis Regulations expressly require that all notifications shall be regarded by the Medical Officer of Health and every person who has access thereto as confidential.

18 deaths were recorded from Pulmonary Tuberculosis, of which 10 occurred in males, and 8 in females.

One male death and two female deaths were recorded of the Non-Pulmonary type of the disease.

The following tables analyse the deaths from Tuberculosis occurring in notified and un-notified cases with the monthly distribution.

DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS, 1949.

Month of Year	Total Deaths		Deaths in Notified Cases				Death in Un-notified Cases			
	Notified Cases	Un-Notified	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
			Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
January ..	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
February ..	3	1	—	3	—	—	1	—	—	—
March ..	4	—	3	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
April ..	4	1	2	—	1	1	1	—	—	—
May ..	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
June ..	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
July ..	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
August ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
September ..	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
October ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
November ..	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
December ..	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total ..	19	2	8	8	1	2	2	—	—	—

Tuberculosis Centre—Llanarth Road, Pontllanfraith.

Dr. F. Jarman, Tuberculosis Physician, presents the following Report on Tuberculosis work in the Abertillery Urban District for the year ending 31st December, 1949.

ABERTILLERY TUBERCULOSIS DISPENSARY.

Number of new cases examined at the Abertillery
and Pontllanfraith Clinic during the year, 1948 .. 286

Number diagnosed as suffering from—

(a) Pulmonary 26

(b) Non-Pulmonary 4

Total number of cases seen at the Clinic 839

Number of patients admitted to Hospitals and..

Sanatoria 16

T.B. cases notified in School Children, 1948 :—

					<i>Boys</i>	<i>Girls</i>	<i>Total</i>
Pulmonary	..	..	..	..	—	1	1
Non-Pulmonary	..	..	..	..	1	—	1
					—	—	—
					1	1	2
					—	—	—

Special forms marked “I” and “II” are received each week from the County Medical Officer, and also from Medical Officers in charge of Tuberculosis Institutions, informing me of the patients from this area admitted, or discharged, from various sanatoria.

Form “I” contains details of cases admitted, and Form “II” details of cases discharged from various Institutions.

The following table shows the total number of cases treated during the year, together with the number admitted to or discharged from sanatoria, etc., during the various months of the year.

<i>Month</i>	<i>Admitted</i>				<i>Discharged</i>			
	<i>Pulmonary</i>		<i>Non-Pu'ry</i>		<i>Pulmonary</i>		<i>Non-Pu'ry</i>	
	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>
January	1	4	—	—	1	2	—	—
February	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
March	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
April	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
May	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—
June	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
July	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
August	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
September ..	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
October	2	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
November ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
December ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	9	7	—	—	4	10	—	—
16				14				

From the above table you will note that 16 cases of Tuberculosis (9 males and 7 females) were admitted to Institutions, and (4 males and 10 females) 14 were discharged.

The following table shows the various Institutions for the treatment of Tuberculosis to which patients were sent during the year, together with the number admitted or discharged from each Institution.

<i>T.B. Hospital or Sanatorium</i>	<i>Pulmonary</i>				<i>Non-Pulmonary</i>			
	Admitted		Discharged		Admitted		Discharged	
	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>
Talgarth ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Glan Ely ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cefn-Mably ..	4	4	3	5	—	—	—	—
Sully Hospital ..	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Gellygarn ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
North Wales San.,	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	—
Chepstow ..	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Energlyn ..	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Penheslyn ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gelligaer ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Adeline Patti ..	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Total ..	9	7	4	10	—	—	—	—

Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925.

No Tuberculous employees are engaged in the milk trade, and consequently no action was necessary.

Public Health Act, 1925, Section 62.

No order for the compulsory removal of patients to hospital was made.

Examination of the figures of cases of tuberculosis of all kinds notified and of the recorded deaths from this disease over a period of years does not reveal any increase in this disease locally. In fact, if it shows anything at all, it shows a tendency to decrease, as will be seen from the following table.

Year	Yearly Notification of Tuberculosis.				Total Yearly Cases of Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary T.B.	Deaths from Tuberculosis				Total Yearly Deaths from Tuberculosis
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary			Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		
	Males	Females	Males	Females		Males	Females	Males	Females	
1932	18	19	9	6	52	12	10	2	—	24
1933	27	16	4	4	51	13	12	4	1	30
1934	15	12	4	3	34	13	13	4	1	31
1935	11	24	2	4	41	11	14	1	1	27
1936	14	18	4	3	39	12	9	2	—	23
1937	15	15	5	2	37	5	10	1	1	17
1938	14	17	6	4	41	8	8	2	1	19
1939	17	16	4	4	41	9	16	1	1	27
1940	15	15	6	4	40	11	13	1	—	25
1941	25	14	9	3	51	7	10	5	2	24
1942	15	16	7	2	40	9	8	2	2	21
1943	28	12	1	4	45	16	5	1	—	22
1944	13	20	3	3	39	5	4	—	2	11
1945	10	18	4	5	37	7	8	—	2	19
1946	16	11	2	4	33	10	1	—	2	13
1947	15	10	3	4	32	3	5	1	1	10
1948	8	15	1	2	26	7	7	1	1	16
1949	17	9	3	1	30	10	8	1	2	21

TUBERCULOSIS.

AGE PERIODS OF NEW CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS AND
OF ALL DEATHS FROM THE DISEASE DURING 1949.

<i>Age Periods in Years</i>	<i>New Cases</i>				<i>Deaths</i>			
	<i>Respiratory</i>		<i>Non-Resp.</i>		<i>Respiratory</i>		<i>Non-Resp.</i>	
	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>
0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
10	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
15	5	2	—	—	1	—	—	—
20	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
25	5	2	—	—	3	2	—	—
35	—	1	—	—	2	3	—	—
45	2	—	—	—	1	3	1	—
55	2	—	1	—	1	—	—	1
65	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
65+	1	—	1	1	2	—	—	1
TOTAL	17	9	3	1	10	8	1	2
	26		4		18		3	

Speaking generally, pulmonary tuberculosis is not a disease of "school age." It is uncommon below the age of 10 years and only slightly more common from 10—15 years.

Improved methods of diagnosis, particularly X-Ray examination, have shown that the disease does exist at these ages.

From 15—25 there is a very large increase in its incidence.

In the middle-aged group the disease is of a fairly chronic type, whereas in the young adult the type is of acute tuberculosis. The chronic type usually responds well to treatment, but not so the young adult acute type, and the aim should be, if possible, prevention.

Many cases return to houses totally unsuitable for the continuous treatment necessary to effect an arrestment or cure and also without the accommodation to ensure a separate well-ventilated bedroom and thus prevent them from becoming a source of infection to others.

Erysipelas.

One case of Erysipelas was notified during the year.

Small Pox.

No case of Small Pox was notified during the year under review.

Puerperal Fever.

No case of Puerperal Fever or Puerperal Pyrexia was notified during the year.

No deaths were due to Puerperal Sepsis.

Puerperal Pyrexia is defined as any febrile condition occurring in a woman within 21 days after childbirth or mis-carriage, in which a temperature of 100° Fahrenheit (38° Centigrade) or more has been sustained during a period of 24 hours, or has recurred during that period.

Polio-Encephalitis.

One case was notified during the year.

Cerebro-Spinal Fever.

No case was notified during the year.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

For the purpose of notification the expression "Ophthalmia Neonatorum" means a purulent discharge from the eyes of an infant, commencing within twenty-one days from the date of birth.

No case was notified during the year.

This disease is apt to cause ulceration of the cornea, and this condition is followed by visual impairment, or, if severe, actual blindness.

The County Council supply "eye-drops" to each Midwife in the area from the Maternity and Child Welfare Centres, and these "drops" are instilled into the eyes of the newly-born child.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum is a highly preventable condition.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum	CASES			Vision Impaired	Vision Unimpaired	Total Blindness	Deaths
	Notified	Treated					
		At Home	In Hospital				
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Measles.

No deaths were recorded during the year as due to Measles.

219 cases were notified.

Diarrhoea.

No deaths were registered as due to Diarrhoea.

The method of stating the diarrhoeal death-rate in terms of the entire population, is especially open to objection, as about 80 per cent of the total deaths from Diarrhoea occur under one year of age. It would be a more accurate approximation to the truth if stated in terms of the number of births.

Influenza.

No deaths were recorded from this disease.

Pneumonia.

19 deaths were registered as due to Pneumonia (all forms) (12 males and 7 females), and of these, 8 occurred in children under one year of age.

Diphtheria.

There were no deaths from Diphtheria during the year.

No cases were notified.

Cancer.

26 male and 20 female deaths were attributed to Cancer.

Public Mortuary and Post-Mortem Room.

The Council has provided an excellent mortuary and post-mortem room. The building was opened on 27th November, 1937. It is situate on the approved site on the Cemetery Road.

Summary of Nursing Arrangements, Hospitals, and other Institutions available for the District.

PROFESSIONAL NURSING IN THE HOME.

(1) *General.*—The District Nurses are under the control of the County Council, and in this area there are seven.

Judging from the reports, excellent work is being done.

Midwives.—There are six midwives in this district, under the control of the County Council. A special lady inspector visits the midwives at regular intervals, also when the occasion demands.

Clinic and Treatment Centres. Maternity and Child Welfare Centres. (Consultation and Treatment).

Three Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics of the County Council are situate at Abertillery, Six Bells, and Llanhilleth. The first centre was established at Abertillery, and this proved so successful that another centre was formed at Llanhilleth, and still another one at Six Bells. Aberbeeg and Cwmtillery areas are desirous of having a centre of their own.

The Abertillery Centre is now held at the old Police Station, Tillery Street, on Fridays, from 9 a.m. till 3 p.m., one doctor being in attendance, assisted by two nurses.

The Six Bells Centre is now held at the Ambulance Hall, Vivian Street, on Wednesday afternoons.

The Llanhilleth Centre is held at the Workmen's Hall on Monday afternoons.

The accommodation at the three Centres consist of a waiting-room, weighing-room, and consulting-room.

The premises at Llanhilleth and Six Bells are taken by the County Council at weekly rentals.

The old Police Station belongs to the Monmouthshire County Council.

The Ante-natal Clinics are now held at Abertillery, Six Bells and Crumlin.

The Health Centre at Commercial Street will be used in 1950.

Tuberculosis Centre.—This is situate at Llanarth Road, Pontllanfraith, where the Tuberculosis Physician attends every day. Appointments are made by the local practitioners or the Medical Officer of Health.

An X-Ray Centre has been established by the Welsh National Memorial Association at Pontllanfraith.

Venereal Disease Centre.—The Clinic is under the control of the County Council, and is attached to the Royal Gwent Hospital, Newport.

HOSPITALS PROVIDED OR SUBSIDISED BY THE LOCAL AUTHORITY OR COUNTY COUNCIL.

(1) *Tuberculosis.*—All accommodation for this disease is under the control of the Welsh Regional Hospital Board.

There is no local hospital accommodation for Tuberculosis.

(2) *Maternity.*—Maternity cases are provided for by the Monmouthshire County Council at Llanfrechfa, Lydia Beynon and at special hospitals situate throughout the County.

(3) *Children.*—There is no local children's hospital. Special beds are provided at Aberbeeg Hospital when required, and at Panteg, Nantyglo and Blaina Hospitals.

(4) *Fever.*—Isolation hospitals at Bedwellty, Tredegar, etc., take cases from this area.

The hospital at Aberbeeg contains about 40 beds, and is open as a General Surgical Hospital, with out-patient departments for eye, throat, nose and ear, X-ray work, diseases of women, etc.

ANY INSTITUTIONAL PROVISION FOR UNMARRIED MOTHERS, ETC., IN THE DISTRICT.

No institutional provisions exist in the district for unmarried mothers, illegitimate infants, or homeless children, but the Public Assistance Committee deal with some of these cases at their hospital and children's homes at Tredegar, and other unmarried mothers are accommodated at Nantyderry.

<i>Maternity and Child Welfare Centres</i>	<i>Where Situate</i>	<i>Nature of Accommodation</i>	<i>By Whom Provided</i>
1. Abertillery ..	Old Police Station, Tillery Street, Health Centre	One Consulting Room and several other Rooms.	} County Council
2. Llanhilleth ..	Workmen's Institute	One Consulting Room and two other Rooms	
3. Six Bells ..	Ambulance Hall Vivian Street	ditto	
Ante natal Clinics			
1. Six Bells ..	Ambulance Hall	Consulting and Waiting Room	} County Council
2. Abertillery ..	Tillery Street.	Consulting Room and other rooms	
School Dental Clinics			
1. Abertillery ..	Commercial St., Abertillery, and Tillery St.	Waiting Room Treatment Clinic, Dark Room for Eye-sight and Inspection Clinics Room Dental Room	} County Council Divisional Executive
2. Llanhilleth ..	Workmen's Hall, Llanhilleth	Waiting Room, Treatment and Dental Room.	
3. Crumlin ..	Workmen's Hall, Crumlin.	Special Room	
Tuberculosis Centre	Llanarth Road, Ponllanfraith	Consulting and Waiting Room and Small Office.	Welsh National Memorial Assoc. for Tuberculosis

Ambulance Facilities.

(a) *For Infectious Diseases.*—A special Ambulance is available at the Ambulance Depot, Caerleon. Tel.: Caerleon 283.

(b) *For Non-Infectious and Accident Cases.*—The Colliery Companies have two motor-ambulances for accident cases only which are stationed at Cwmtillery and Six Bells Collieries.

All requests for ambulances and sitting-case cars **MUST** be submitted to the Ambulance Control Centre, Caerleon.

Summary of Visits performed by Nurse Bobbett to July 1st, 1949.

Visits to Scarlet Fever patients	..	..	..	..	116
„ Otitis Media patients	..	..	..	..	14
„ Eczema patients	..	..	..	..	165
„ Ottorrhea patients	..	..	..	..	59
„ Impetigo patients	..	..	..	..	165
„ Carbuncle patients	..	..	..	..	50
„ Erysipelas and Dermatitis patients	..	..	..	..	21
„ Measles and Pneumonia patients	..	..	..	..	16
„ Blepharitis patients	..	..	..	..	8
Head Cleansings	..	..	..	..	9
Visits to patients with Septic conditions	..	..	..	..	38
„ Small Pox contacts	..	..	..	..	48
T.B. Visits	..	..	..	..	23
					732

Nurse accompanied one patient to Hospital.

Number of Swabs taken—6.

Nurse attended Minor Ailments Clinic on two half-days weekly, and the Immunisation Clinic on one half-day weekly.

During June Nurse Bobbett was employed by the Public Health Department on two days per week.

Housing.

Number of new houses erected during the year :—

Total	NIL
---------------	-----

1. *Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year.*

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	485
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ..	1042
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	39
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ..	39
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	NIL
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ..	189

2. *Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of formal Notices :—*

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	102
---	-----

3. *Action under Statutory Powers during the Year.*

(a) Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.	—
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	—
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners	—
(b) By local authority in default of owners	—
(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	87
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners	81
(b) By local authority in default of owners	6

(c) Proceedings under section 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	NIL
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	NIL

(d) Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ..	NIL
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ..	NIL

4. *Housing Act, 1936—Part IV.—Overcrowding :—*

(a) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the Year	31
(ii) Number of families dwelling therein	56
(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein	184
(b) Number of new cases, etc.	—
(c) (i) Number relieved	3
(ii) Number concerned	17
(d) Number of dwelling-houses overcrowded, etc., after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	NIL

Eradication of Vermin.

(a) Number of Council Houses :—

(1) Found to be infested..	..	..	..	4
(2) Treated	..	..	..	4

(b) Number of other Houses :—

(1) Found to be infested..	..	..	..	136
(2) Treated	..	..	..	136

INSPECTIONS IN CONNECTION WITH OVERCROWDING.

<i>Ward</i>	<i>Dwellings Inspected</i>	<i>One Family</i>	<i>Two Families</i>	<i>Three Families</i>	<i>Occupants</i>		<i>Average</i>
					10—	+10	
1	1	—	1	—	4	4	6.0
2	2	—	2	—	2	10	5.5
3	6	—	6	—	14	32	6.5
4	8	2	6	—	18	39	6.0
5	14	4	10	—	26	69	5.9
TOTAL	31	6	25	—	64	154	6.0

Number of houses owned by Local Authority :—

(a) Prefabricated (Temporary)..	..	..	100
(b) Prefabricated (Permanent) ..	..	..	74
(c) Traditional ..	..	..	237

Drainage and Sewerage Disposal.

Western Valleys (Mon.) Sewerage Board.

The Western Valleys (Mon.) Sewerage Board deals with the sewage of eight urban districts, namely :—Abertillery, Abercarn, Risca, Tredegar, Ebbw Vale, Mynyddislwyn, Nantyglo and Blaina and Bedwellty, together with portions of St. Mellons R.D.C., and the Newport (Mon.) Corporation, the latter due to the recent Borough extension.

The scheme has worked well since its completion.

The main trouble is subsidence in some areas which necessitates careful inspection and somewhat frequent repairs to the Trunk Sewer.

Public Sanitary Conveniences.

ABERTILLERY.

Rose Heyworth Road

Royal Lane, Blaenau Gwent, (facing Blaenau Gwent Chapel).

Alma Street.

Foundry Bridge.

Tillery Road (below Club Row).

Bush Hill.

Ladies' convenience situate in Chapel Street with lady attendant.

Alexandra Road (Ladies and Gent's) opposite Cwm Hotel,

Market Street.

Near New Bridge End Inn, Penybont.

Cwmtillery.

SIX BELLS.

Near Six Bells Bridge.

Near Coach and Horses Inn.

ABERBEEG.

Near G.W.R. Station.

LLANHILLETH.

Opposite Ty'r Graig Schools.

Near Central Hotel (at foot of hill over railway bridge).

CRUMLIN.

Near Viaduct Hotel.

COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF HOUSE AND TRADE REFUSE.

The collection of Refuse in the Urban Area is carried out with Petrol-Driven Vehicles with covered bodies of semi-circular type so as to prevent, as far as possible, dust being blown about while the lorries are travelling.

Collections are made three times weekly, also collection of Trade Refuse from the Business Premises.

The method of disposal is by the now well-known Bradford Method, described as "Controlled Tipping."

On the closing down of the Refuse Destructor at the end of 1928, the disposal of refuse was carried out by crude tipping which quickly resulted in complaints of obnoxious smells, vermin, fires, etc., especially on the Tip at Rose Heyworth Road. In 1932, however, the Council introduced the above described method of disposal by which the refuse laid down to plan, properly consolidated, and covered over with earth at the end of each days' work. This method eliminates all the nuisances attendant on the old method, and is being used to provide facilities for recreation. The Council have formed Sports Grounds at Rose Heyworth Road for the Abertillery Grammar School, and the Ground, when completed, will include a Football Field, Hockey Pitch, Cricket Pitch and Tennis Courts.

Another Ground completed is at the Walpole Field, Llanhilleth (now being used as G.W.R. Sidings), and a further Recreation Ground is being prepared at Aberbeeg. Considerable interest is being shewn in these activities by neighbouring Authorities, and several Councils have sent their Representatives to view the progress and method of the work.

The above report was kindly supplied by the Engineer and Surveyor, A. Gordon Jones, Esq.

The Sanitary Administration and Conditions for the year 1949

The following tables show particulars of the work carried out by the Sanitary Staff :—

TABLE A.

Animals, etc. kept :—

Piggeries	..	..	..	..	52
Stables ..	..	..	..	..	16
Fowls, pigeons	..	..	..	..	39

Complaints :—

Total number investigated (all premises)	..	..	..	745
Common Lodging House	..	..	..	14
Cowsheds .. .. .	..	..	..	77

Dairies :—

Premises examined	50
Number of Purveyor's vehicles	19

Drainage :—

Number of main or branch drains smoke tested	84
" " " " " " " colour tested	40
" " " " " " " found defective	91
" " " " " " " re-constructed	49
Visits to works in progress	116

Dwelling Houses :—

Number inspected <i>re</i> complaint of nuisance	498
Number re-inspected	617
Number inspected <i>re</i> overcrowding	30
Interviews with Owners	143
" " Tradesmen	119

Licensed Houses, Cafes, etc. examined <i>re</i> urinals, W.C.	31
---	----

Miscellaneous Visits :—

Visits not otherwise classified	325
---	-----

Offensive Trade premises	218
----------------------------------	-----

Public Conveniences :—

Number inspected	109
--------------------------	-----

Amusement premises	47
----------------------------	----

Special visits (not classified above) <i>re</i> works in progress	38
---	----

'The nuisances were :—

Defective Roofs, troughing, down-pipes, etc.	152
Defective Window-frames, doors, etc.	20
Defective or insufficient yard paving	10
Damp and defective external walls	34
Insufficient light, ventilation, and other internal defects	—
Choked or defective drainage	49
Insufficient W.C. and slop-water drainage	26
Defective and insufficient closet accommodation	43
Insufficient water supply	2
Accumulation of refuse	6
Miscellaneous nuisances	35
Defective ceilings	39
Defective walls (internal)	49
Defective floors	17
Other internal defects	26

Many and varied were the nuisances discovered. In some cases the owners and occupiers were interviewed and the nuisances abated at once, and in other cases legal notices were served.

NOTICES SERVED.

Abatement Notices served under Public Health Act	..	..	88
<i>Re</i> Scavenging	..	..	230
Total	..	..	<u>318</u>

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The visits paid to cases were as follows :—

Scarlet Fever	..	..	..	..	..	..	156
Diphtheria	..	..	..	..	..	..	—
Paratyphoid Carrier	..	..	..	..	..	..	—
Erysipelas	..	..	..	..	..	..	21
Tuberculosis	..	..	..	..	..	..	35
Scabies	..	..	..	..	..	..	—
Enteric Fever Contacts	..	..	..	..	..	..	—
Small Pox Contacts	..	..	..	..	..	..	48

6 Swabs were taken.

Other visits :—

Impetigo	..	..	..	..	..	..	165
Excema	..	..	..	..	..	..	165
Pneumonia	..	..	..	..	..	..	16
Various Skin Infections	..	..	..	..	..	..	23
Septic Conditions	..	..	..	..	..	..	19
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..	..	..	<u>64</u>
							712

Every effort is being made to stamp out infectious diseases, and the following disinfections were carried out :—

Rooms, after Infectious Disease	..	..	..	..	..	72
Special Disinfection of Schools, etc.	..	..	..	..	..	5
Miscellaneous Premises	..	..	..	..	..	<u>11</u>
Total	..	..	..	..	..	88

Also a large quantity of bedding, wearing apparel, etc., has been disinfected and destroyed.

RODENT CONTROL.

Summary of Action taken.

RATS.

	<i>Tested</i>	<i>Treated</i>	<i>Re-treated</i>
Dwelling Houses, including adjacent Out-houses, etc. ..	—	202	20
Hotels, Cinemas, etc. ..	—	—	—
Shops and Warehouses ..	59	11	2
Canteens, including Cafes and School Canteens ..	—	1	2
Cots, etc. ..	72	16	—

MICE.

	<i>Treated</i>	<i>Re-treated</i>
Dwelling-houses, etc. ..	377	104
Shops and Warehouses ..	2	—
Schools ..	2	2
Canteens, including Cafes and School Canteens ..	5	4

The following places were tested and/or treated for Rats during 1949 :—

River Banks—Glan Ebbw Terrace ; from Washery to Bridge near Tin Works ; Abertillery Park to Six Bells Colliery ; Ivorites to Glandwr, Aberbeeg ; Rear of Meadow Street, Llanhilleth ; Llanhilleth Colliery to Royal Oak ; Viaduct Works, Crumlin.

Culverts and Waterways—Hafodarthenn Brook, Llanhilleth ; Graig Row Bank ; Brook by Coed-cae-ddu.

Open Spaces—Under Electric Sub-Station by Foundry Bridge ; Alley between Cogan's and Arnold's, Tillery Street ; Arch and Plantation back of Church Street, Abertillery ; Plantation by Abertillery Cottages.

Tips—Rose Heyworth, Foundry Bridge, Aberbeeg, Swffrydd.

Pavements—By Bush Hotel and Premier Pork Stores.

Treatment for Rats in Sewers.

Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries Schemes N.S. 19 and N.S. 21 were operated respectively in March and October, 1949.

Foods.

MILK SUPPLY.

Number of persons registered under the Milk and Dairies (Amendment Act, 1922) :—

Registered during 1949	..	..	..	..	..	—
On Register	..	..	..	..	..	42
Licensed to sell Pasteurised Milk during 1949	..	..				6
Milk Producers	..	..	..	..	..	12

A very small proportion of the milk consumed in this area is produced locally.

The greater proportion is brought in from the English Counties and generally arrives in a clean and fresh condition.

Samples are taken at intervals for testing for Tuberculosis, other bacteria, and cleanliness.

The tests are carried out by the County Council and reports forwarded to this department.

The number of inspections of premises, stalls, vehicles, etc., made last year was 214.

57 samples of milk were tested in the area during the year ended 31st December, 1949, and 10 samples were found which were not up to the standard required. The vendors were warned and further samples taken and submitted for examination.

ICE CREAM.

Number of premises registered during the year	..	..	..	..	3
Number of premises registered	..	..	..	..	32
Number of registered persons producing	..	..	..	..	12
Number of samples taken	..	..	..	..	53
Number of inspections of premises and vehicles	..	..	..	..	102

WATER.

Number of samples taken :—

(a) Bacteriological examination	..	..	..	..	38
Number satisfactory	..	..	..	..	9
Number unsatisfactory	..	..	..	..	29
(b) Chemical examination	..	..	..	..	2

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

The following particulars show the amount of attention given to securing a wholesome supply of food.

Visits to Premises :—

Fish, fruit and vegetables shops	..	..	..	..	394
Meat shops	..	..	..	..	523
Fried fish and chip shops	..	..	..	..	160
Bakehouses	..	..	..	..	147
Fishmongers	..	..	..	..	172
Premises registered for the preparation of food	..				130
Other premises where food is prepared, sold or stored	..				179

STORES AND VEHICLES.

Attention is being given to the cleanliness of vehicles, wrappers, etc., used for bringing meat into the district and for conveying meat to the shops, and the conditions are satisfactory.

The men who handle such meat are compelled to wear clean overalls.

There is no public abattoir.

All slaughtering is now centralised at Brynmawr.

(c) OTHER FOODS.

Meat, fish and fruit shops are regularly visited, and the food exposed for sale or stored is examined.

Pork butchers' premises, where sausage meat and small goods are prepared, receive great and constant attention.

Bakehouses are regularly inspected, and the sanitary conditions are noted and dealt with as required.

No case of food poisoning was recorded in the district during 1948.

The Sale of Food and Drugs Act is administered by the Monmouthshire County Council.

Food Inspection.

The following show the variety of Food Stuffs condemned :—

Meat	401lbs.
Cresta Confectionery	100 bars
Cheese	124 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.
Pork	85lbs.
Sausage Meat	15lbs.
Sausage	43lbs.
Butter	165 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.
Sagolette	60lbs.
Soydens	30lbs.
Fish	238lbs.
Cockles	52 pints
Rabbits	58lbs.
Figs	320lbs.
Bacon	14lbs.
Ginger Flour	33lbs.
Oats	49 packets
Chitterlins	1 cask
Sauce	1 bottle
Picallili	15 bottles

Tinned goods :—

Peas	92 tins
Fruit	83 „
Milk	112 „
Fish	84 „
Meat	81 „
Soup	36 „
Veal Loaf	1 „
Beans	64 „
Tomatoes	60 „
Syrup	1 „
Pickle Onion	8 „
Pickle Cabbage	18 „
Sweet Pickle	2 „
Jam	42 „
Dried Egg	13 „
Tomato Juice	13 „
Rhubarb	2 „
Vegetables	1 „
Carrots	4 „
Grape Fruit Juice	4 „
Apple Sauce	4 „
Rabbit	2 „
Beetroot	1 „
Pudding	1 „
Cheese	1 „

Factory Act, 1937.

1. Inspection for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

<i>Premises</i>	<i>Number on Register</i>	<i>Number of</i>		<i>Occupier Prosecuted</i>
		<i>Inspections</i>	<i>Written Notices</i>	
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 enforced by Local Authority	21	35	1	—
(2) Factories not inc. in (1) to which Section 7 applies	68	215	1	—
(a) Subject to the L./A's (transfer of Enforcement) Order 1938				
(b) Others	—	—	—	—
(3) Other premises under the Act (excluding outworkers' premises)	2	1	—	—
TOTAL	91	251	2	—

2.—DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES.

<i>Particulars</i>	<i>Number of Defects</i>			<i>Number of Prosecutions</i>
	<i>Found</i>	<i>Remedied</i>	<i>Referred by H.M. Insp.</i>	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	1	1	—	—
Want of ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—
Want of drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—
Sanitary accommodation { insufficient	—	—	—	—
{ unsuitable or defective	1	1	1	—
{ not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—
Other offences (not including offences relating to Homework)	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	2	2	1	—

3.—REGISTERED FACTORIES.

Factories on Register at end of year :—

Dressmakers and Milliners	6
Shoe-makers and Repairers	9
Tailors	2
Watch-makers and Repairers	4
Bake-houses	15
Saddlers	1
Motor repairers	8
Printers	3
Undertakers	2
Wheel-wrights	1
Carpenters and Joiners	9
Brewers	1
Food preparation	19
Iron Foundries	1
Non-Ferrous Foundry	1
Tin Plating	1
Wheel-barrow Manufacturers	1
Stationery and lamp shades	1
Mortar Mill	2
Electrical	2
Gas	1
Building and Engineering Works	4
Remploy Training Centres	1
Total	<hr/> 95 <hr/>

REGISTERED FRIED FISH SHOPS 20

Common Lodging Houses.

There were formerly three registered common lodging houses, one situate in Alma Street, one at Royal Oak, Llanhilleth, and the other at Crumlin.

The one situate in Alma Street has been converted into flats, and that at Royal Oak abandoned.

The only registered premises is that at Crumlin, which is kept clean and in good repair.

Pit-Head Baths.

Pit-head baths are now established in connection with the Rose Heyworth, Cwmtillery and Llanhilleth Collieries.

These establishments are working satisfactorily and are proving a great boon to those engaged in the industry.

Other pit-head baths are required, and plans at present are under consideration.

Swimming Baths.

There are two swimming baths in this area—one situate in the Park at Abertillery, and controlled by the Abertillery U.D.C.—and the other which is covered, is controlled by the Powell's Tillery Institute Committee, and is situate in Division Street.

The former, which is an open-air bath, was originally constructed in 1900, and measured 90 feet x 30 feet, with 88,594 gallons capacity. The bath was modernised in 1936 at a cost of £3,000, providing a bath 92 feet x 43 feet, with 125,000 gallons capacity. The special filtration plant is capable of "turning the water over" in six hours. There are 20 cubicles for men and 13 for women, with provision for sun-bathing on concrete promenades.

1. Date of Construction	1900—Modernised 1936.
2. Open-air or Covered	Open-air.
3. Cost of Construction	Modernisation £3,000.
4. Capacity :	
(a) Dimensions	92ft. x 43ft.
(b) Gallonage to fill	125,000.
(c) Number of bathers provided for	33 Cubicles.
5. Method of Purification	Filtration and Chlorinisation Plant
6. How often changed	Six-hourly periods of "turn over"
7. Source of Water Supply.	Local.
(a) If local, estimated flow	(a) 30/60 gallons per minute according to season from adjacent stream.
	(b) Mains supply.
(b) If purchased, cost per 1,000 gallons.	(a) Annual easement for water right.
	(b) 2/- per 1,000 gallons.
8. Laundry facilities (if any)	None.
9. Number of cubicles	33.
10. Any other dressing accommodation provided	None.
11. Number of Staff engaged	One to Two.
12. Duration of open period	April to September.

Meteorological Records.

SUMMARY OF DAILY RECORDS TAKEN AT NEW CEMETERY AND THE PARK, 1949.

<i>Month</i>	<i>The Park</i>		<i>New Cemetery</i>		
	<i>Inches</i>	<i>Rain Days</i>	<i>Sunshine</i>	<i>Temperature</i>	
			<i>Hours</i>	<i>Highest</i>	<i>Lowest</i>
January ..	3.24	15	6.1	51.5	28.2
February ..	2.62	11	25.45	51.6	21.0
March ..	2.13	12	57.2	64.0	23.8
April ..	5.06	14	75.01	71.0	30.6
May ..	4.43	15	77.1	71.0	29.3
June ..	1.91	8	78.6	75.5	38.8
July ..	2.72	6	79.7	85.0	35.8
August ..	3.19	13	53.85	82.0	43.0
September ..	3.87	7	47.7	78.8	43.5
October ..	12.29	21	15.1	73.0	29.1
November ..	6.36	23	6.3	53.1	25.5
December ..	5.19	21	8.9	55.0	26.2

Total inches for year, 53.01 Rain days, 166.

Total hours of Sunshine, 531.01.

Highest Temperature for Year, 85.0.

Lowest Temperature for Year, 21.0.

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